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A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, March 23. 1710.

IN my last I gave you a brief Original of the late MOB— But before I go any farther, give me leave to pay due Reverence to *Old Captain TOM*, acknowledging, that his Eminenceship is of quite another Family; that He, *as we have hitherto been acquainted with him*, is no Relation, not at all a Kin to, or has any of the Blood of this Beast in his Body.

And to pursue this Difference, let me observe, That the Rabble, we have been lately insulted with, have shewn us their peculiar Qualifications, other than were ever seen here before; as follows.

1. That they began their Insolencies without the least Provocation, no Laws broke, no Injury offer'd, no Grievance to complain of—A Government regulated by the Laws, and those Laws left by the Sovereign to a free uninterrupted Course—No Criminal skreen'd from Justice, no Innocent ruin'd by the Torrent of Arbitrary Power, and even the Corrections of the Law dispens'd with Mildness, Clemency, and unheard of Moderation. No Mob could rise against such a Government as this, but what must come immediately from *Hell*; Nothing but the Devil, who hates Peace, who abhorrs just Government, and was always an Enemy both to the erecting of Laws, and to Princes preserving Justice and Truth in their Dominions, *could act in this*. This Mob had no other Cause to act for, but

but what Sathan from the Beginning has encourag'd; *Viz.* Tyranny, and Rapin; Vices abhorr'd both in Prince and People.

2. And to prove this, see how it was carry'd on, not to redress the immediate Grievance they pretended to, tho' that was incoherent and inconsistent; for indeed they had no immediate View at all—— But all the Thing before them was Plunder, Theft, and Blood——— Murtherers and Robbers never before made a Mob to redress Grievances——— And here pray, let me give you a short Story to which I am a living Witness——— In the great Rising of the Mob at the late Revolution, they came to demolish a Mass-house, or rather Seminary of Popery, in an old Building, I think, they call'd *Berkley* House near St. *John's Street*———They had assaulted the House with Stones, and Staves, and such Tools as they had, but could not get the Doors open—— Some of the most forward call aloud for Crows or Sledges to split open the Gates, away run a Knot of Fellows down towards *Cow-Cross* to find out a Smith's, and bringing along with them his great Hammers or Sledges, they soon got Enterance——— When they were broke in, and all Hands busie to pull down and demolish, and as every one strove to be foremost, it was not likely the Smith should get his Tools again. Hey, *Jack* says one, *Tom* says another; why *Jack* you Dog, take care of the Sledges; carry home the Sledges, says another; you Dog says another, you won't rob the poor Smith! Come here, let's carry home the poor Man's Sledges; away they go, a little Troop, leave their Spoil, and carry'd home the poor Man all his Tools, every one, he did not lose one; nay, two or three of them lug'd away a great Hinge, with a Piece of the Gate hanging to it, to give the Smith the Iron for the Use of the Sledges.

Here the Mob had a visible End, and they pursu'd it without aiming at any private Persons Injury; and tho' I do not justifie even that very Mob, yet in Comparison to this they are to be justify'd: These, as their Mouths were full of Blasphemy and Damnation, so their Hands were full of Violence and Blood; as they pull'd down the Meeting-houses, so they robb'd the Ministers Houses where they could, they stole every Thing that was portable; and as they burnt the Pews, Pulpits, *and Bible*, &c. so they would have burnt the Ministers, if they could have found them.

Again, their Aim at the BANK was a visible Testimony whither they tended; no doubt, pulling the Bank was as much for the QUEEN, as demolishing the Meeting-houses was for the Church. But of this I shall have Room to speak more at large.

At present give me leave to speak to those Gentlemen, who amuse the World with the new Notion, that all this was for the Defence of the Church, and that all the Prosecution of Dr. *Sacheverell* was against the Church—— I have often endeavour'd to convince this deluded People, that detecting the Crimes of the Clergy, and punishing them, is the true Interest and Safety of the Church.

I lately took the Boldness to talk to you of a *Plot*, and talk'd of my self as an Informer against the QUEEN. I am perswaded, I have given her Majesty no Offence in it; but trouble not your selves about that, Gentlemen, *leave That and Me to her Majesty's Mercy*. But shall I turn the Tables upon Dr. *Sacheverell* and his Party, I mean that Party, who are angry at having just Complaints made at the scandalous Vices of the Clergy.

If her Majesty is engag'd in Behalf of the Church of *England* in a deep and well laid Design to weaken the Interest of the *Dissenters*——And that this Project, *God speed her Majesty in it*, is to put the Best, the most Pious, Holy, Learned, and Laborious Divines that can be found, into Charges and Dignities in the Church, and none but such, thereby to encourage Learning, Piety, Reformation, and Religion.

For God's Sake then, what Plot must you be all in? *You Gentlemen of the High Church*, that skreen, defend, own, and protect a dissolute, prophane, loose, ignorant, and DEBAUCH'D CLERGY—and that wince and kick, as if touch'd in a sore Place, when

when these are struck at —— Be not angry, *and if you are, expect it should be contemn'd*, if you are told, you are in a *Plot with the Devil*, to expose Religion, and to pull down, if possible, the Church and Kingdom of Christ in the World; and were it not that your Livery shews you are of another Family, one would think, you were in a Plot with those you accuse, to establish them and ruin the Church of *England*.

It is in vain to use Artifices to fix *the Danger of the Church* upon any Party of Men in this Nation, but your selves; *Error*, *Heresie*, *Atheism*, *Deism*, or *Phanaticism*, put all together, do not the Church so much Mischief as *Deviliſm*; *VICE* is the Hand maid to *ERROR*, *Crime* ushers in *Atheism*, and an immoral, prophane Clergy always fill'd the Church with prepostrous Principles, *and ever will do so*.

If the Clergy are not Moral, *how should they be Orthodox*; if they *regard not Man*, how should they *fear God*; if they are under *no Discipline*, how should they be *regular*; and if *false* in Practise, how should they be *sound* in Principle —— This makes *honest Men* abhor you, *consscientious Men* forsake you, the *weak* take Offence at you, and the *strong* separate from you ——— And hence come *Dissenters* —— Here they began, by this they encreas'd, and by the Continuance of this they are very much supported.

The first violent Breach on the Morals of the Nation was that most infamous *Book of Sports*, licensing by Authority the Breach of the Lord's Day; how many pious, worthy, *yet conforming* Divines left their Pulpits, rather than read *that accurs'd Book?* This was the *English* Son of *Nebat*, that made *Israel* to sin—And as it was a killing Stroak to the Morals of the *English* Nation, we have from it a *Jeroboam Stroak*, grown into a Proverb to this Day, when you express a dead Blow to any thing; *I believe, few think that Proverb had that Original.*

This was the *Jeroboam Stroak* to the Church of *England* indeed; here began the very Thing call'd Dissenting; and tho' the Name of *Puritan*, *Precisian*, and *Phanatick* has been bestow'd, *the Thing* was Dissenting, and nothing else; and it began in Dissenting from a *vicious Clergy*, who joyn'd in with their wicked Superiors in promoting Vice and Prophaneness in the Nation. And *to this Day*, this has been the Encrease of the Number of *Dissenters*; I do not say the *Dissenters* continue separated on no other Account; but I do say, this first drove them headlong out of the Church, and daily drives Multitudes from the Church to them.

They would fain raise a Story, as if the *Dissenters* were in a Plot to draw the mad *High Church* Mob into the late fooliſh Attempt of demolishing the Meeting-houses —— *It is indeed a mad Story*; but this is a most certain Truth, *tho' a Paradox odd enough*, that however you have shewn your Good-will to have the Meetings pull'd down, you are the Men, who with your own Hands have built them up, and who are daily frighting honest Men from the Church.

Is it not enough to send any well-meaning Man to the Meeting-houses, to see *Parson D———n*, lie dead drunk in a Hogstie among the Swine; to hear Dr. *M*—— swear by his Maker, and damn his Neighbours like *a Porter*; to have good Mr. *F——s* of *H———ſs*, blaspheme the Sacrament; *K*—— debauch his own Niece; *Pl—ton* write bawdy Songs, and the like; and yet all these remain *Teachers of the People*, Curers of Souls, Favourites of their Diocesan, and dark Lanthorns in the Church ——— *The Stones would speak*, and the Ages to come, who will certainly spue these Monsters out of the Church, will rise in Judgment against us, *if we speak not* ——— These Men will put the Church into Danger; and if they, and such as they, are not purg'd out, the Church in Time must sink, and fall in her own Ruins ——— I see no other Danger the Church is in at this Time, and I humbly submit it to the Judgment of the Parliament *now sitting*, whether what I say savours of any evil Design against the Church, whose Reformation and Restoration I wish from the Bottom of my Soul.

ERRATA.

REVIEW, N° 149. Page 593. Col. 1. Line 18, 19. read, *her deform'd Carcass to, but in vain : She had*, &c. ib. col. 2. l. 12. *Governments*, r. *Government* ; p. 594. col. 1. l. ult. for *Europe*, r. *Envy* ; p. 595. col. 1. l. 7. for *thousands*, r. *thousand* ; ib. l. 9. for *Poysonous*, r. *Poysons*. Miscellanea, col. 2. l. 3. after *sent* add (,) after *Demands* dele (,) ; p. 596. col. 1. l. 2. for *License*, r. *Licenses*. In the Advertisement, l. 14. for Mrs. *Pike*, r. Mrs. *Pye*.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WHereas great Industry has been us'd to suppress this Paper, by several Members of a Party, to whom it is particularly Grievous to hear too much Truth——By whose Art the Publication of it has so far been stop'd, that none have been to be had, either of the Hawkers, or Shops where other such Papers are sold.

These are to give Notice, That for the future, over and above the usual Number deliver'd by the Publisher,—— A certain Number shall be left at Mr. *Nathaniel Cliff's*, Bookseller in *Cheapside*, near *Mercer's-Chappel*, and at Mrs. *Pye* at the Sign of the *Golden Perriwig* at *Charing-Cross* ; where any Gentlemen [illegible] supply'd either with single Reviews, or whole Volumes, as they [illegible]

MVSEVM BRITAN NICVM

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THE Monthly Miscellany, or Memoirs for the Curious, for the Month of *July*, 1709, Vol. III. Containing Brief Directions for making and preserving Collections of all *Natural* Curiosities. *De Scarabæis Anglicanis* ; or a brief Account of divers Sorts of *English* Beetles. Cochineel Beetles or Lady-Cows. *Monachi* or Monk-Beetles. *Scarabæi Antennis Geniculatis*, Beetles with joynted Horns. *Capricorni* or Goat-Chaffers. *Buprestes* or Burn-Cows. Beetles as have no Transparent or Membranaceous Wings under their Sheaths. Of Assurance of our Election. A Holy Life the best Evidence of Election. Conclusion by Way of Application. *Gazophylacii Naturæ & Artis, Decades Quinque*, &c. LONDON : Printed for *J. Woodward*, in St. *Christopher's* Church-Yard, *Threadneedle-street* ; and *J. Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*.

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N. B. His Mother, the Widow of the said Mr. *Christopher Bartlett*, lives at his House in *Goodman's-Fields*, and is very skilful in the Business of her own Sex.